

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-108 are canceled without prejudice to further prosecution. Claims 109-124 are added. Therefore, claims 109-124 are pending after entry of this amendment. Applicants respectfully request examination on the merits of the amended claim.

Claim 109 is fully supported by the specification and claims as filed. Support for claim 109 may be found, for example, in claims 1 and 4 as filed, and in the specification at page 17, lines 25-26 (stating " $R^6$  is a species selected such that  $-OR^6$  is a leaving group"), and at page 18, lines 4-5 (stating "the reactive functional group is selected from  $-COOH$ ,  $-OH$ ,  $-NH_2$ , and  $-SH$ "). Support for claims 110-124 are found in the claims as filed and in the specification, for example, at page 13, line 9 to page 18, line 5.

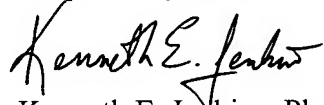
As each of the elements of the amended claim are supported in the written description as filed, no new matter is added by the amended claims presently pending.

**CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,



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